

IN THE CLAIMS:

Would the Office kindly amend Claim 1 as follows:

1.(currently amended) A shovel comprising a blade and a handle, said blade having:

a shovel front edge;

a shovel rear edge;

first and second shovel side edges;

a front surface and a rear surface;

first and second wings extending outwardly and upwardly from respective shovel side edges;

each of said wings having a wing front edge and a wing rear edge, each of said wing front edges merging with a respective shovel side edge at a point ~~rearwardly of~~ substantially midway between said shovel front edge[[.]] and said shovel rear edge, each of said wing front edges having a straight edge portion and an arcuate concave portion, said arcuate concave extending between said respective shovel side edge and a respective straight edge portion.

2.(original) The shovel of Claim 1 wherein said wing front edge and wing rear edge merge to form an arcuate wing top edge.

3.(original) The shovel of Claim 1 wherein said wing rear edge extends outwardly from a point proximate said shovel rear edge.

4.(original) The shovel of Claim 1 wherein said front surface of said shovel has a concave configuration.

5.(original) The shovel of Claim 1 wherein said first and second shovel side edges merge to

form said shovel front edge which has a pointed configuration.

6.(original) The shovel of Claim 2 wherein said shovel front edge is tapered between said front surface and said back surface to provide a cutting edge therealong.

7.(original) The shovel of Claim 6 wherein each wing rear edge has an outwardly extending flange.